



Security Council

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Letter dated 21 April 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement on the situation in Darfur, Sudan, issued on 15 April 2004 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Richard **Ryan**
Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations



Annex to the letter dated 21 April 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

Statement on the situation in Darfur, Sudan, issued on 15 April 2004 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union

The European Union welcomes the signing of the humanitarian ceasefire agreement between the Government of the Sudan and the SLM/SLA and JEM. It calls on all parties to observe and scrupulously respect the rules of that agreement.

It congratulates the Chadian mediators for their efforts to promote the conclusion of the agreement.

It salutes the commitment of all parties to authorize unrestricted humanitarian access and facilitate the distribution of humanitarian assistance to the people of the Grand Darfur region.

In this context it is essential that the Sudanese Government fulfil its commitment to control the irregular armed forces known as the Janjaweed.

The acceding countries Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, the candidate countries Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey, the countries of the stabilization and association process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and Serbia and Montenegro, and the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, align themselves with this statement.